

March 19, 2009

WASHINGTON, DC—On Wednesday, March 25th, Congressman Joe Sestak (PA-07) welcomed two student groups from the Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy and from Upper Darby High School. The two groups, here on separate field trips to the Capitol, gathered together with the Congressman to discuss issues of mutual interest such as the stimulus and US-Israel relations.

“The education of our youth is the foundation of the future economic and cultural prosperity of our nation,” said Congressman Sestak, a member of the House Education and Labor Committee. “I am impressed with the level of involvement and activism I see in you students today, and I am confident that your energy and concern for this country will carry our nation to a stronger future.”

Located in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, the Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy is a Jewish, private, college-preparatory day school that educates young men and women in grades 6 through 12. The students here today are participating in a Jewish teen leadership program through PANIM, the Jewish Institute for Leadership and Values. The program is designed to enhance Jewish high school students' understanding of current public policy issues and some of the solutions recommended by various groups.

Located in Drexel Hill, Pennsylvania, Upper Darby high school is a public school that educates young men and women in grades 9 through 12.

*Born and raised in Delaware County, former 3-star Admiral Joe Sestak served in the Navy for 31 years and now serves as the Representative from the 7th District of Pennsylvania. He led a series of operational commands at sea, including Commander of an aircraft carrier battle group of 30 U.S. and allied ships with over 15,000 sailors and 100 aircraft that conducted operations in Afghanistan and Iraq. After 9/11, Joe was the first Director of "Deep Blue," the Navy's anti-terrorism unit that established strategic and operations policies for the "Global War on Terrorism." He served as President Clinton's Director for Defense Policy at the National Security Council in the White House, and holds a Ph.D. in Political Economy and Government from Harvard University. According to the office of the House Historian, Joe is the highest-ranking former military officer ever elected to the U.S. Congress.*

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